ABSTRACT

An organic electroluminescent (OEL) element includes a scanning electrode and a signal electrode, which crosses the scanning electrode at right angles, on a substrate. The signal electrodes are formed of N-layer electrodes laminated like steps, where respective layers are insulated from each other. The scanning electrodes are formed on the signal electrodes via an organic thin film layer. As a result, a display area is divided into sections corresponding to laminated numbers, and the divided each section is scanned independently. A duty ratio for driving the OEL element becomes large and less power consumption thus can be expected.